

From Soldiers' Angels:

Dear Eagle Scout candidate:

It's nice to meet you, and thank you for contacting Soldiers Angels. My name is Roger Godskesen, and I'm one of the volunteer managers at Soldier's Angels. I was a Scoutmaster and Committee Chairman for 7 years and I am also the father of an Eagle Scout, so I work with any Eagle candidates who contact Soldier's Angels. I've had a lot of guys complete their projects so far; you can read about some of them at the links at the bottom of this email.

You will need to check with your troop, but the usual procedure is that you will need to fill out a project application / packet and get it approved by your scoutmaster, troop committee chairman and your local district or council Eagle coordinator before actually starting it.

I will work with you as the representative of the organization that is going to benefit from the project to plan out what the project is going to accomplish. I'll sign off on it too, and then when it is all approved, you can start on it. For my "sign off", you can mail or email me a copy of your project worksheet, and I can sign it and mail it back to you. I do this all the time, and the Scout Councils accept this type of sign-off.

If you already have an idea for your project, please contact me so we can talk about it. Otherwise, I've listed the biggest needs that we could use help with for the military hospitals in Iraq and Afghanistan:

You will also need to include plans to raise enough money for shipping your donations. Everything needs to be sent by US mail. You will need to send the packages directly overseas to a military unit that I will provide the address for. The cost of shipping can be estimated by going to the US postal service website, www.usps.com. Use ZIP Code 09354 as a sample destination to get an idea. I can help you with any questions about how to pack and ship your donations.

Here are ideas for what items are most needed for our wounded soldiers:

(Note, all clothing and toiletry items need to be new and unused.
No clothing is needed in sizes small, or 2X or 3X)

Clothing:

T-shirts - sizes medium, Large and Extra-large. Any color is ok

Men's boxer shorts or Boxer-briefs - sizes medium, large and Extra Large (No "briefs")

white crew socks - men's sized large

Men's pajama/lounge pants – sizes medium, large, extra large. Any color or pattern is ok.

Sweat pants, - sizes medium, large, Extra Large. Preferred colors are gray, navy and black.

Sweat shirts (zipper front hooded sweatshirts "hoodies") - sizes Large, Extra Large. Preferred colors are gray, navy and black. Logos, like for sports teams are fine too.

Sleep pants/lounge pants – sizes medium, large, extra large. Any color or pattern is ok.

DVDs : new or used. Anything that would appeal to young men and women. Movies, TV shows, comedies, etc. R rated are generally ok, but avoid war movies, or very violent themes.

Snacks, etc: (All snacks must be individually wrapped in factory packaging) Consider making "snack-packs" in a quart sized Ziploc bag containing a variety of the snacks below.

- Hard Candy, especially suckers (Charms blow-pops, Tootsie-roll pops are favorites)
- Small packages of nuts, sunflower seeds, trail-mix, crackers & cheese, cookies, etc.
- Gum
- Granola Bars/cereal bars/power bars
- Drink mixes in single-serve packets (Gatorade, Crystal-lite, Kool Aid, energy drink mixes, etc)
- Hot cocoa mixes (in winter months)
- Halloween-sized candy bars (chocolate can only be sent in cooler months October - May)

Toiletries - The medics are always looking for individual-sized toiletries. Toiletries/personal hygiene items: (Travel or "sample" sized containers.) Those collected from hotels are fine, but all must be brand-new, unopened and unused.

- Shampoo
- Lotion
- Foot powder
- Hand Sanitizer
- Body wash
- Tooth paste
- Disposable razors (double or triple-blade)
- Shaving Cream (travel-sized aerosol cans or tubes)
- Bar Soap
- Dental Floss
- Tooth brushes

You can read here about some Eagles that completed their projects with us.

<http://soldiersangelsmedical.blogspot.com/2007/09/eagle-scouts-assist-wounded.html>

<http://soldiersangelsmedical.blogspot.com/2007/11/more-eagle-scouts-assist-wounded.html>

Good luck and I look forward to working with you.

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